

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W

----- 104408

R 222100Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7416

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, BF

SUBJECT: ANNUAL PLP CONVENTION

1. RULING PLP WILL HOLD ANNUAL CONVENTION NEXT WEEK WITH MAIN THEME BEING REPORTED AS "PROGRESS THROUGH SELF-RELIANCE" AND ACHIEVING A MORE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE PEOPLE WHO SUPPORT THE PARTY. CONVENTION WILL BE PRECEDED BY A FUND RAISING EXHIBITION MATCH ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 27 AT NASSAU'S PRINCIPAL SPORTS STADIUM FEATURING WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT BOXING CHAMPION MOHAMAD ALI. PRIME MINISTER PINDLING WILL ADDRESS PARTY LEADERS FOLLOWING NIGHT IN WHAT IS EXPECTED TO BE A LENGTHY EXPOSITION OF THE PRINCIPAL THEMES TO BE DEALT WITH AT THE CONVENTION. ON WEDNESDAY THE CONVENTION WILL DIVIDE UP INTO WORKSHOP COMMITTEES TO CONSIDER FOLLOWING TOPICS:

(1) CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LEADERS OF THE PLP TO BE CHAIRED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER HANNA.

(2) "NATIONAL SECURITY" TO BE CHAIRED BY HOME AFFAIRS MINISTER ROLLE.

(3) "NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT" TO BE CHAIRED BY EDUCATION AND CULTURE MINISTER COAKLEY.

(4) "FOREIGN POLICY" TO BE CHAIRED BY MINISTER OF

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ADDERLEY.

(5) "PUBLIC OWNERSHIP AND BAHAMIAN INVOLVEMENT  
IN THE ECONOMY" TO BE CHAIRED BY DEVELOPMENT MINISTER  
MAYCOCK.

MEDIA ACCOUNTS HAVE GIVEN MOST PLAY TO ALI'S PRESENCE  
AND FACT THAT, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ITS 22 YEAR OLD  
HISTORY, NEARLY HALF OF PARTY CONVENTION SESSIONS  
WILL BE CLOSED TO GENERAL PUBLIC.

2. COMMENT:

(A) CONVENTION HAS THUS FAR FAILED TO GENERATE  
MUCH ENTHUSIASM BY EITHER PARTY LEADERSHIP RANK AND  
FILE MEMBERS, OR BAHAMIANS AT LARGE, LATTER, WHO  
APPEAR INCREASINGLY SKEPTICAL ABOUT PLP AND PINDLING'S  
UNFULFILLED PROMISES MADE AT PAST AND SIMILAR GATHERINGS.  
SEVERAL OF THE TOPICS TO BE CONSIDERED MIGHT  
RESULT IN SOME UNEXPECTED SURPRISES (THE INNOVATION  
OF EXTENSIVE CLOSED DOOR MEETINGS SUGGESTS EITHER  
THAT THE PARTY WANTS TO KEEP FROM WASHING ITS LINEN  
IN PUBLIC, AN EFFORT WHICH WOULD BE CERTAIN TO FAIL,  
OR THAT IT MAY HAVE A FEW SURPRISES WHICH IT WISHES  
TO SPRING AFTER LINING UP THE NECESSARY VOTES IN  
CLOSED COMMITTEE SESSIONS). COMMITTEE REPORTS ON  
CODE OF CONDUCT OF PARTY LEADERS LIKELY TO GENERATE  
MOST COMMENT AND CONCLUSIONS COULD SERVE TO INDICATE  
JUST HOW MUCH PLP HAS BEEN STUNG BY OPPOSITION'S FNM'S  
ATTACKS AND ALLEGATIONS OF GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION AND  
WHAT IF ANYTHING THEY PROPOSE TO DO TO REMEDY SITUATION.  
PLP IS IN AN UNENVIABLE POSITION ON THIS ISSUE  
AS STRONG CORRECTIVE MEASURES  
WITH IMPLICATION OF GUILT WOULD ALLOW OPPOSITION TO  
TAKE CREDIT. CONVERSELY, FAILURE TO TAKE ACTION,  
IF ONLY COSMETIC, WOULD LEAD TO RENEWED AND PROBABLY  
INCREASED ATTACKS.

(B) ALI'S PARTICIPATION AT FUND RAISING EVENT  
AND STRONG PARTISAN REMARKS IN SUPPORT OF PLP BY BOTH HE  
AND HIS MANAGER WHICH HAVE APPEARED IN THE PRESS  
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HAVE PROVOKED STRONG PROTEST FROM FNM LEADERSHIP.  
ONE OPPOSITION LEADER MP, NORMON SOLOMON, CALLED  
EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER TO INQUIRE IF THERE WERE NO  
US LAWS OR REGULATIONS IN FORCE TO PREVENT US CITIZENS  
FROM BECOMING INVOLVED IN POLITICS OF FOREIGN NATIONS.  
TOLD THERE WAS NOTHING EMBASSY COULD DO IN SUCH A SITUATION,  
THERE ARE NOW REPORTS THAT THE FNM ITSELF IS NOW CONSIDERING  
BRINGING IN US PERSONALITY TO GIVE PERFORMANCE ON ITS BEHALF.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750368-1028, P750167-1739  
**From:** NASSAU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 116  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <18 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ANNUAL PLP CONVENTION  
**TAGS:** PINT, BF, PLP  
**To:** STATE SS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006